

Transgender Equity Council Minutes

Regular Meeting

July 8, 2021 - 05:00 PM

Online Meeting

Members Present: Hunta Williams (Co-Chair), Emma Grey, Galen Mitchell, KC Pavus, Davis Senseman, Mae Brooks, Taren Wood, and Destiny Xiong (Quorum - 8)

Members Absent: Billie Kurek, Ash Ray, Becca Sanborn, Melissa Burner, Nicolas Cruz, Kenzie Weller (Co-Chair)

Others Present: Janine (ASL Interpreter), Zaylore Stout (Twin Cities Quorum Presenter), Nicki (ASL Interpreter)

Staff : Track Trachtenberg

Call To Order

1. Roll Call.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Acceptance of minutes

[Jun 10, 2021 Transgender Equity Council](#)

Discussion

4. Updates on Transgender Equity Council Recommendations
 1. Single Room Occupancy - can't require gender-neutral bathrooms but can strongly encourage them; that language has been added and will go before the Council BIHZ committee on 7/13
 2. Department of Public Safety Charter Amendment - the resident petition version of the amendment has been approved to be put on the ballot in November; Council Members have withdrawn their version of the amendment so as to prevent potential confusion
 3. Rent Control
 1. Charter Commission is reviewing the rent control proposed charter amendments; they have rejected the community petition but Council is not tied to the Charter Commission recommendations, so could still put it on the ballot in November. There are two possible directions to go right now - "strong" rent control, which is decided on the ballot in November, and "weak" rent control, which is shaped by Council and therefore has less resident input. Council will choose which direction to take

2. What has been done already in terms of rent control (examples in other cities or past Minneapolis history)? – TRACK, follow up
 1. <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/city-council/ward-10/ward-10-priorities/rent-stabilization/>

March 2021 TEC Council Recs with Updates

5. Subcommittee Updates

1. Policy

1. Mayor proposing Universal Basic Income pilot with American Recovery Plan Act funding
2. Interested in networking in-person more with City Council members rather than just emailing recommendations
3. Discussed charter amendments to remove MPD and replace with Department of Public Safety
 - Community petition
 - Charter Commission
4. Mandatory training for property owners – Track is following up with Regulatory Services to see if it makes sense to ask for an increase of funding so that they have the staff capacity to train all property owners
5. National policy examples – thinking ahead for examples that TEC could propose in 2021 recommendations
 - Decriminalization of sex work
 - Legalization of cannabis
 - Universal Basic Income for trans folks
6. Potential support for rent control
 - Emma motioned, Davis seconded – 8 in favor, none opposed, 6 absent
 - Davis, Taren, and Catherine can work on language – TRACK, follow up

2. Training – no updates

Transgender Equity Council Policy Subcommittee 06282021

6. Trans Issues Work Group Updates

1. No updates as still waiting on law clerk feedback on proposal

7. Summit Updates

3. Tabling

1. TEC is signed up to table!

4. Workshop

1. Billie will submit workshop proposal
8. Pride Tabling Preparation
 5. Engagement and Effectiveness
 1. We have talking points, a trivia game, swag, and handouts – what else do we want to get people engaged?
 6. Materials and Logistics
 1. Does the trivia wheel have prizes? Can we have more interesting swag
 - TRACK – follow up with C

[2021 TEC Talking Points](#)

[Tabling Talking Points - 2021 Trans Equity Summit](#)

[Tabling Resource List](#)

Presentation

9. [Twin Cities Quorum](#)
 1. Zaylore Stout (presenting on behalf of both himself and Rebecca Waggoner, founder/ED of Twin Cities Quorum)
 2. Quorum is Minnesota's LGBTQ+ and Allied Chamber of Commerce, affiliated with National LGBT Chamber of Commerce
 3. NGLCC (National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce) does national certifications for LGBT-owned businesses (their process is as rigorous as the certifications for Minority, Women, Disabled, and Veteran-Owned Businesses. The more established certifications are Minority and Women-Owned Businesses)
 1. To get certified, has to be 51% LGBTQ owned, by US Citizen or permanent resident, with principal headquarters in the US, and formed as a registered business entity
 4. TC Quorum board is 16 individuals – represents multiple identities and multiple forms of businesses, from corporate to non-profit. Working on diversifying membership – worked on scholarship opportunities for BIPOC LGBTQ-owned businesses to join Quorum last year
 5. “Supplier Diversity” – there's lots of money being spent by companies and municipalities, and currently, it is not being spent on businesses owned by socially and/or economically disadvantaged groups. Supplier Diversity opportunities attempt to provide additional opportunities and support for businesses owned by marginalized groups to get these contracts
 6. Zaylore and Rebecca are working on getting City of Minneapolis, City of St. Paul, and State of MN to broaden how they define Supplier Diversity – currently

defined as Women-Owned and/or Minority-Owned Businesses. Want it to expand to include LGBTQ-owned, Disabled-owned, and Veteran-owned businesses

1. Have met with Christina Kendrick (Neighborhood and Community Relations), Frank Reed (Civil Rights), CVP Jenkins
2. Have also met with staff at City of St. Paul and State of MN
3. St. Paul is most on board – but want Minneapolis to get there too!
4. Many local corporations already count LGBTQ-owned, Disabled-owned, and Veteran-owned businesses in their Supplier Diversity – they’re ahead of municipalities here
5. Would need to pass legislation at a State level, but would pretty simple to make happen on a City level
7. WBENC is the national certifying body for Women-Owned Businesses, and currently is not inclusive of trans women – which is the other reason we need LGBT-owned businesses to also be counted as “Supplier Diversity”
8. A corporation or municipality may contract with a “Tier 1” contract (a large marketing firm, for example) but can then require them to implement Supplier Diversity with the smaller “Tier 2” contracts (graphic designers, printers, etc.)
9. There are cities around the country that have expanded their Supplier Diversity to include LGBT-owned businesses – even though Minneapolis banned gender identity discrimination in the 1970’s (!!), we’re behind here
10. 2017 MN Joint Disparity Study – there was a concerted effort to not include LGBTQ-owned businesses in the study, but then the fact that there was no data was then used as a reason to not include LGBT-owned businesses in the Supplier Diversity programs
 1. From the study, learned that the majority of the businesses getting “diverse contracts” were businesses owned by white women – much smaller once you got to everyone else. This is part of the reason that the definition of Supplier Diversity needs to expand
11. Quorum is coalition-building – working with Minneapolis Regional Chamber, MN Twins, and Black, Hispanic, Native, and Hmong Chambers
 1. Intentionally coalition-building to show that this isn’t going to be bad for BIPOC-owned businesses just because we’re adding more identity groups to Supplier Diversity programming
12. Questions:

1. Performers/artists/business owners of adult content are also welcome in Quorum!
 2. Quorum membership is \$20/month, with some sliding scale options – but don't technically have to be a member to attend Quorum events/most events are free
 3. Not sure what current set-up is for ASL interpreters – Zaylore can follow up with Rebecca
 4. In terms of what would be most useful from the TEC – pushing the Mayor and City Council on this work (especially the Mayor), and echoing importance for trans community specifically
1. TRACK – follow up with Policy Subcommittee on this

[Quorum Presentation to the MPLS Transgender Equity Council](#)

Adjournment

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Next Transgender Equity Council meeting: Aug 12, 2021

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- Your attendance at the meeting;
- Your name, residential address, email or phone number, or other personal contact details;
- Your comments at the meeting, whether part of a formal hearing or comment period or otherwise; and
- Any submissions you provide before or after the meeting which are included as part of the public record of the meeting.

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